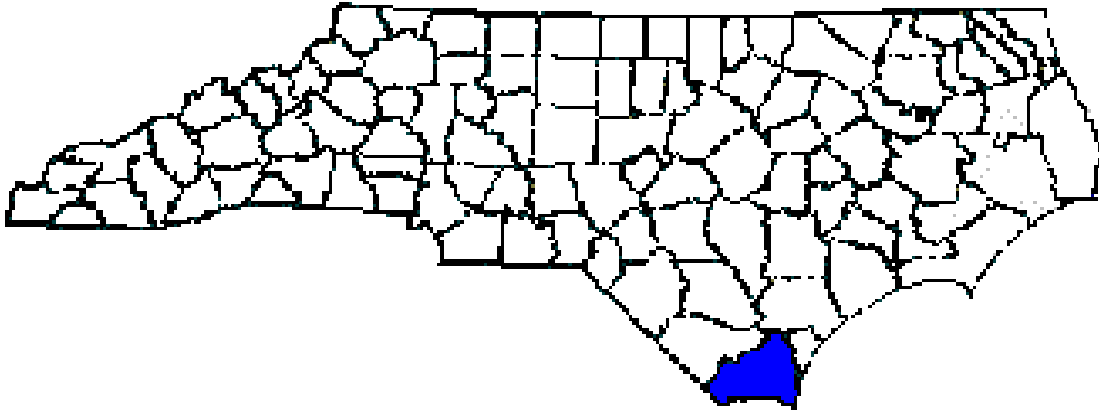


ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2009



**Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site
Brunswick County
TIP No. B-4031**



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North Carolina Department of Transportation
July 2009

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SUMMARY

The Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site is located in Brunswick County. The site was planted in May 2009 and was designed as wetland mitigation for impacts associated with bridge project B-4031.

The proposed wetland mitigation consists of restoring 0.298 acres of coastal salt marsh wetland. Restoration will involve removing causeway fill mainly along the northern approach with a small area along the southern approach to Bridge No. 72. Only the areas adjacent to the proposed bridge were planted with appropriate species. The areas directly under the bridge will not be planted due to the sunlight restrictions caused by low bridge heights. By removing the causeway, the surface hydrologic functions and connectivity of these areas will be restored. Hydrologic monitoring is not required for this project; however vegetation monitoring is required for three years.

After the first year of monitoring, the Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site shows by visual observation that the restoration area is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status and the marsh species planted in the wetland restoration area are surviving in the planted areas.

NCDOT proposes to continue vegetation monitoring at the Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site is located at Bridge No. 72 over Jinnys Branch in Brunswick County on NC 179 (Figure 1). The site consists of approximately 0.298 acres of mitigation for wetland impacts associated with project B-4031.

1.2 Purpose

In order for a mitigation site to be considered successful, the site must meet vegetation success criteria. This report details the vegetation monitoring in 2009 at the Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site. Hydrologic monitoring was not required for the site.

1.3 Project History

May 2009	Site planted
July 2009	Vegetation Monitoring (1 year)

2.0 VEGETATION: JINNYS BRANCH MITIGATION SITE (YEAR 1 MONITORING)

2.1 Success Criteria

NCDOT shall monitor the restoration site by visual observation and photo points for survival and aerial cover of vegetation. NCDOT shall monitor the site for a minimum of three years or until the site is deemed successful. Monitoring will be initiated upon completion of the site planting.

2.2 Description of Species

The following wetland grass species were planted in the Wetland Restoration area:

Spartina alterniflora, Smooth Cordgrass

Spartina patens, Saltmeadow Cordgrass

2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring

The wetland restoration area is re-attaining jurisdictional status and the planted species are surviving in the planted areas. Vegetative coverage should continue to increase over time.

2.4 Conclusions

There were approximately 0.298 acres total of wetland restoration on site. There were no plots established on site. By visual observation, the Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site shows that the planted species are surviving in the planted areas and that the restoration area is re-attaining wetland jurisdictional status.

3.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

NCDOT proposes to continue vegetation monitoring at the Jinnys Branch Mitigation Site.

APPENDIX A

SITE PHOTOS

Jinnys Branch



Photo 1



Photo 2

July 2009

